

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. An adapter having an integrated ballast and
starting arrangement for annular fluorescent lamps
having a pin base for connecting the adapter to
conventional incandescent lamp sockets, the
10 adapter having a housing for accommodating the
integrated ballast and starting arrangement and a
concentric attachment, having a screw or bayonet
base, being attached to this housing, the housing
having a substantially cuboidal configuration and
15 lying substantially within the space enclosed by
the annular fluorescent lamp, and a holder, which
partially encloses the pin base of the fluorescent
lamp or the discharge vessel of the fluorescent
lamp, being attached to each of the two ends of
20 the housing, the first holder also containing a
socket for accommodating and making electrical
contact with the pin base and the second holder
having a sliding apparatus for locking the annular
fluorescent lamp.
- 25 2. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
housing of the adapter is assembled from a lower
part, an upper part and a sliding part.
- 30 3. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
ballast and starting arrangement is mounted on a
board.
- 35 4. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
electrical clamping contacts of the pin base
socket are mounted on a board which is
electrically connected to the electrical

connections of the board of the ballast and starting arrangement.

5. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
5 electrical clamping contacts of the pin base
 socket are mounted on the board of the ballast and
 starting arrangement.
6. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
10 holder with the pin base socket comprises in each
 case at least one extension, in the form of a
 hook, of the lower part and at least one
 extension, in the form of a hook, of the upper
 part of the housing, which together enclose the
15 fluorescent lamp in the form of a semicircle.
7. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
 holder with the sliding apparatus comprises at
 least one extension, in the form of a hook, of the
20 lower part of the housing, on which the
 fluorescent lamp rests, as well as the sliding
 part, the sliding part having at least one
 extension, in the form of a hook, for holding the
 lamp vessel, resting on the upper part of the
25 housing and being capable of being displaced in
 the direction of the longitudinal axis of the
 housing for the purpose of locking the lamp.
8. The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the
30 sliding part has a U-shaped cross section having
 in each case one rib which extends in the
 longitudinal direction of the base housing, close
 to the free ends of the two flanks, the rib
 engaging in a corresponding groove on the inside
35 of the side walls of the base lower part.

9. The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the sliding part has, on the two flanks, a locking part in the form of a rectangular section which is cut out of the flank wall and is fixedly connected to the flank wall only on the side remote from the base lower part.
10. The adapter as claimed in claim 9, wherein the locking part has projections, in the form of saw teeth, on the outside, close to the edge facing the base lower part, which projections, when the adapter is assembled, engage in corresponding projections, in the form of saw teeth, on the inside of the side walls of the base lower part.